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CENTRAL FAX CENTER****MAY 15 2007**REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated March 9, 2007. Claims 1 to 15 are in the application, of which Claim 1 is still the only independent claim. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

All claims were rejected over U.S. Patent 6,574,742 (Jamroga), or over Jamroga in view of U.S. Patent 5,851,186 (Wood). Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested, as set out in detail below.

The invention concerns a business method for providing a payer with access to digital medical image data. The digital medical image data is stored at a central server, and the payer is provided with access thereto for a fee.

According to one aspect of the invention, the payer can forward access to the stored digital medical image data to another individual, whereafter that other individual is granted access thereto. For example, as described in terms of one representative embodiment of the invention, at paragraph [0069] of the instant application, the payer can forward access to another user, which constitutes the grant of access to another individual. Preferably, the other individual is notified by e-mail concerning his newly-granted access and information on how to access it. Access may be granted for a limited time, after which access is no longer available. In addition, there may be limitations on the power of the payer to forward access to other individuals.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest the foregoing, particularly as regards the forwarding of access to the stored digital medical image data to an individual other than the payer.

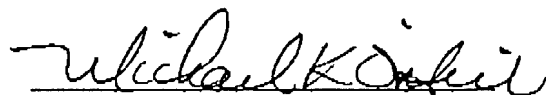
Jamroga describes a system for communication, storage, retrieval and delivery of information such as digital medical image data. The information is warehoused at a central server, and provided to a user for a fee. Various arrangements are described in Jamroga, concerning billing and invoicing. Jamroga, however, is not seen to disclose or to suggest that the user who pays for access also has the ability to forward access to another individual.

Wood describes an on-line medical ultrasonic diagnostic imaging system that is said to be accessible at virtually any remote location. Wood does not apparently limit access to stored medical image data based on payment of a fee, and it also is not seen to disclose or to suggest that such a payer also forwards access to another individual.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that the claims herein define subject matter that is not anticipated and would not have been obvious from any permissible combination of Jamroga and Wood. Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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